

REMARKS

Claims 38-53 have been allowed and the issue fee paid. The Applicants understand that upon re-allowance of this application that the issue fee will be credited.

Information Disclosure Statement

Certain documents (AAB, AAC and AAD) cited on the information disclosure statement filed April 12, 2000 have not been formally considered. The Applicants request entry of their Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 which provided copies of these documents. A copy of Form 1449 originally submitted on April 12, 2000 is attached for the convenience of the Examiner.

A brief explanation of the relevance of references AAC and AAD is provided below.

AAC (SPF, Japan SLC, Inc.) is a standard of Japan SLC Inc, experimental animal superior and was used for the explanation of the SPF condition.

AAD (CRJ Letters, Vol. 11, No. 1) is titled "NC/Mga mouse useful as an experimental model for atopic dermatitis". It compares the conventional NC/Nga mouse, which is bred in normal condition, and the SPF NC/Nga mouse, which is bred under the SPF condition. It concludes that NC/Nga mice spontaneously develop the dermatitis and its symptoms resemble human atopic dermatitis (AD) from various data such as pathological diagnosis, plasma IgE level, and so on. Also, it cited Hiroi et al., Jpn. J. Pharmacol. 76:175-183 (1998), which has already been considered by the Examiner. It demonstrates the usefulness of the NC/Nga mouse as an AD model. Figs 9 and 10 of this reference are the same as Fig. 1 and 3, respectively, of Hiroi et al.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the consideration of references AAB, AAC and AAD.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above Remarks, the Applicants respectfully request allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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